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15 July 1959

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR**

**SUBJECT: Ambassador Jones' Views on US-Libyan  
Negotiations**

1. We have always estimated that the stability of the US base position in Libya was dependent on the pro-West King Idriss' survival. We have no firm indications that the King is as dissatisfied with proposed US aid arrangements as Ambassador Jones suggests, but if he is, we agree that the US would probably be in real trouble in attempting to preserve unrestricted use of Wheelus Field and other facilities.
2. We also agree that it would be risky for US interests if Kubar fell and a new scramble for office ensued. Any foreseeable successor would be at least as stiff-necked with the US, and probably considerably more so -- especially if Kubar's fall was related to the issue of US bases and the level of compensation for them. The last thing the US should

want now is to allow this question to get into the Libyan  
public political arena.

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